

## By the United States in Congress assembled. March 17, 1785

### BY THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED. MARCH 17th, 1785.

**WHEREAS** it must conduce to the preservation of public credit, and the equal distribution of justice, that the amount of the national debt be ascertained with the utmost expedition; and as delay in the settlement of accounts, tends to render them obscure, and to encourage frauds, by preventing the means of detecting them.

**RESOLVED**, That all persons having unliquidated claims against the United States, be, and they are hereby required, within twelve months from the date hereof, to deliver a particular abstract of such claims to some commissioner in the state in which they respectively reside, who is authorized to settle accounts against the United States. And any person or persons, neglecting to deliver their claims as aforesaid, shall be precluded from any adjustment of the same, except at the board of treasury; provided that in those states where there is no commissioner of accounts, the citizens of such state or states, shall be allowed one year for delivering their claims, from the time when a commissioner shall have been appointed and enter on the duties of his office.

**THAT** all persons who shall neglect to deliver in, a particular abstract of their claims as aforesaid, shall be excluded from the benefit of settlement or allowance.

**RESOLVED**, That the commissioners of accounts, appointed under the resolutions of 27th February, 1782, be, and they are hereby instructed to remove their respective offices to the place in which Congress resides, before the first of May next, except such of them as by special order of Congress have been appointed to settle accounts in some other place.